MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 AUGUST 1985

Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held talks in Damascus, during which they discussed the security situation in Lebanon and promoting Lebanese national reconciliation and reforms, Damascus radio reported. The meeting was also attended by Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami, and on the Syrian side by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, and Foreign Minister Faruq Al-Shar', the radio added. The Syrian president, in an interview broadcast by Beirut radio, said the talks were "good" and "useful," adding that the spirit of dialogue in Lebanon is more evident than ever before. According to Damascus television, Al-Asad received Amal movement leader Nabih Birri and Progressive Socialist Party Leader Walid Junblatt after meeting Al-Jumayyil. At a news conference carried by Beirut radio, the Lebanese president called his meeting with Al-Asad "extremely cordial and positive" and praised the Syrian president for his "colossal efforts" to assist Lebanon. He said the National Union Front (NUF) program is a positive basis for national dialogue. Al-Jumayyil also blamed the PLO for the "current chaos" in Lebanon, stressing that the country has paid a high price for the PLO's behavior and is not prepared to pay it again.

Reacting to Junblatt's interpretation of the NUF program, a Phalangist Party Political Bureau statement carried by Voice of Lebanon radio said the party rejects the program if it is a solution imposed by "material force" on all factions and parties and an approach to partitioning rather than uniting Lebanon.

Arab Summit

A WAKH report, citing the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, reported that the summit final session on 9 August will issue a final statement without practical resolutions, waiting instead for the next Arab summit.

Israel

U.S. State Department official John Whitehead told Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin that during his recent meeting with King Husayn, the Jordanian leader made it clear that the list of Palestinians presented to the Americans for the joint delegation is final, *HA'ARETZ* reported.

In another development, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said government ministers agree that if Israel enters negotiations with Jordan the government could offer self-rule for inhabitants of the territories, Jerusalem radio reported. He emphasized, however, that Israel will not allow the territories to become a base for terrorism, and will act against provocateurs and perpetrators of attacks. Meanwhile, Police Minister Hayim Bar-Lev told Jerusalem radio that Israel has appealed to Jordan through public and other channels to remove "terrorist headquarters" from its territory. He added that these headquarters have not been designated targets for military action.

A senior political source at the Prime Minister's Office told *HADASHOT* that Peres is planning a summit meeting with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak as early as next month, with or without the Likud's approval.

In a separate development, a Foreign Ministry announcement reported by Jerusalem radio denied charges by Nicaragua's president that Israel is arming and training rebels fighting the Sandinista regime. The announcement said the only contacts between Israel and Nicaragua were over an attempt to resume diplomatic relations, and any Israeli-made weapons used by rebels must have been obtained from a third party.

Iran

President 'Ali Khamene'i, in an election speech broadcast by Tehran radio, said nations throughout the world "greatly desire" favorable relations with Iran and consider such relations "a cause for prestige." Noting that the country was unstable and the economy was "extremely bad" when the last presidential elections took place in 1981, Khamene'i said the situation today is "entirely different." He said Iran has brought pressure on U.S. "world-devouring" policies, and President Reagan now openly declares he is threatened by Iran and several other countries.

Iran-Iraq War

Iran continued its offensive northwest of the Al-Azim marshes, destroying an Iraqi commando battalion and killing 100 enemy troops, Tehran radio reported.

Egypt

An Egyptian major general said both the United States and Egypt benefited from the "Bright Star" military maneuvers which concluded 8 August, MENA reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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BAKHTAR: Karmal Lauds Gorbachev Moratorium Bid

LD090718 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] Kabul, August 7, BAKHTAR — The accomplishments made during the 12th World Festival of the Youth and Students in Moscow gave considerable importance to the festival. This was an example which should be pursued by other countries as well. This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, when receiving the Afghan youth delegation who had participated at the festival.

Babrak Karmal said that M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of CPSU, in his inaugural speech of the festival once again elucidated the peaceful, friendly and humane policy of the Soviet Union, a policy which is aimed at a creation of a world without war and the guarantee of peace in the world. The statement released by the Soviet leader regarding the unilateral moratorium on nuclear blasts effective from August 6 is one instance of such peaceful intentions followed by the USSR. Babrak Karmal called upon the youth to ever-further increase their participation towards the building of a new and just society.

During this meeting, Farid Muzdak, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan, presented a short report on the activities of the Afghan youth at the festival.

Defense Minister Addresses Army Imams

LD081837 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] A 3-day seminar of spiritual personalities, religious ulema and imams of units and companies of the DRA Army ended today.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports that at the concluding session, Major General Nazar Muhammad, DRA minister of defense; Sulayman La'eq, minister of nationalities and tribal affairs; and Malawi Abdul Wali Hojat, DRA minister of Islamic affairs and endowment, spoke about the policy of the party and the revolutionary government in reference to the sacred religion of Islam.

They asked the imams and preachers of the DRA Army to play their role in the defense of the revolution as peacemakers: Nationwide peace and creation of a peaceful atmosphere at this sensitive time in the country's history — where the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism against the DRA daily acquires a broader dimension — is required.

At the end of the seminar, cash awards and gifts, including copies of the Holy Koran, were presented to the imams.

SPA Details Recent Anti-Soviet Operations

GF081450 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] London, 8 Aug (SPA) — The invading Soviet forces last Friday sustained eight dead and had a military vehicle damaged when it ran over mines planted by the Afghani mujahidin on the main road in the city of (Sabin Buldak), located near the Afghani-Pakistani border.

The Afghani news agency, the mouthpiece of the mujahidin, reported today that the mujahidin attacked a military convoy with missiles near the town of (Gharishin) in Helmand Province on 26 July.

This destroyed one tank and killed all its occupants.

Former Manipur Minister Shot Dead 8 Aug

BK090328 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] In Manipur, Mr Solomon, a former minister, was shot dead at his residence in Imphal last night by unidentified gunmen. Mr Solomon was a member of the Manipur Public Service Commission. A vigorous search is on to nab the culprits. Details are awaited.

Further Details

HK090626 Hong Kong AFP in English 0557 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] New Delhi, August 9 (AFP) — Suspected separatist tribals [as received] have shot and killed a former state minister in the northeastern state of Manipur, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today.

Official sources quoted by the news agency from Imphal, capital of the northeastern state on the border with Burma, said three unidentified gunmen shot former state Finance Minister L. Solomon last night in front of his wife. They escaped after the incident.

The sources were quoted as saying that the killers were members of an insurgent group, but did not specify the group.

Two separatist groups are active in Manipur — the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the Meithies and the People's Revolutionary Party of Kanglepak (PREPAK).

Alam Khan Issues Statement on Pakistan Nuclear Plan

BK081509 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1442 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs had made a statement in the Rajya Sabha on 7th August on the situation arising out of Pakistan's attempt to develop a nuclear bomb. In a separate statement in the Lok Sabha on 8th August, the minister of state made the following statement:

"The non-peaceful dimension of Pakistan's nuclear programme has been a matter of concern for India. Contrary to the claims by Pakistan's leaders, available evidence and public statements by Pakistan scientists suggest that Pakistan has been pursuing the objective of acquiring the wherewithal to manufacture nuclear weapons. The government have also been concerned at the regretable attitude of certain countries which have chosen to turn a blind eye to these moves by Pakistan which could only have the effect of encouraging it to go ahead in this direction.

"Reports which have appeared from time to time in the international media in this regard, particularly about the clandestine procurement of nuclear equipment and components by Pakistan, have reinforced our apprehensions. Of immediate relevance are the case of a Pakistani national who was caught in the process of smuggling kryton from the United States to Pakistan and the recent report by the ABC correspondent John Scali that Pakistan had carried out a nonnuclear explosion using krytons of U.S. origin. While the U.S. State Department has been unforthcoming on the statement made by Scali, we hope that the United States, resulting from PM's [prime minister's] discussions with President Reagan, will exercise its influence to dissuade Pakistan from pursuing the course.

"Our concerns on this subject which have been conveyed on different occasions to the Government of Pakistan at various levels were reiterated during the recent visit of the foreign secretary of Pakistan.

"The government are concerned at the likelihood of Pakistan acquiring nuclear weapons which would result in a qualitative change in the security environment in our region. India remains committed to developing nuclear technology for peaceful purposes. However, we cannot but take into account these developments in our neighbourhood which have grave implications for our security. I wish to assure the House that the government have been keeping, and will continue to keep, a constant vigil on all developments having a bearing on the country's security."

New Reactor Now Capable of Producing Plutonium

HK081112 Hong Kong AFP in English 0905 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] New Delhi, Aug 7 (AFP) — A domestically-built nuclear research reactor in Bombay became capable of producing plutonium today, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said.

It said the reactor at the prestigious Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) would be used in industrial, agricultural, and medical research. International plutonium safeguards would not apply as the reactor was entirely domestically-built, PTI said.

The "Dhruva" reactor was a major producing facility of plutonium, the fuel for second generation fast breeder reactors. It went critical today, meaning it became able to produce plutonium, PTI said. India already has other plutonium making plants.

The plutonium was capable of being used for nuclear weapons, analysts said. India has none and officially opposes their existence in any nation.

P. Iyengar, director of the BARC, was quoted as saying that "Dhruva" was the sixth and largest reactor at the centre and that all its systems were designed, built, and commissioned indigenously.

Earlier the atomic department said the 100 megawatt reactor would be used for isotope production and engineering research. It was also equipped with instruments designed for neutron spectrometry.

The "Dhruva" is a heavy water-cooled and moderated natural uranium metal reactor. It is about 2.5 times larger than "Cirus," another important reactor at the centre built with Canadian help in 1963.

The BARC's atomic fuel division made the reactor's fuel and an electronic and instrumentation group of scietists made the con-

trol systems, Dr Iyengar was quoted as saying. Another division, headed by S.K. Mehta and A. Kakodkar, worked out the design.

"Dhruva" was one of the few high flux reactors in the world, PTI said. It would help produce isotopes like iodine-131, chromium-51 and molybdenum-99, demand for which has increased for use in medical diagnosis and theraphy, Dr Iyengar said.

It would also help in producing isotopes like iodine-125, which is currently imported.

India also has several commercial nuclear power stations.

Delhi on Commissioning of Reactor

BK081617 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] The country's largest nuclear research reactor — Dhruva — was successfully commissioned at the Bhabha Atomic Research Center [BARC] in Bombay today. The 100-megawatt uraniam-fueled reactor is the sixth research reactor in the country.

The director of BARC, Dr P.K. Iyengar, said the reactor will be of tremendous use for producing isotopes and useful for medical and industrial purposes. However, it will not produce electricity.

With the commissioning of Dhruva, the country will have a major facility producing plutonium, the fuel for the second generation of fast breeder reactor.

The prime minister in a message has congratulated the scientists of the Bhabha Atomic Research Center on the successful commissioning of the reactor.

Further Reportage on Visit of Afghanistan's Dost

Kabul: Meets With Gandhi

LD081925 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Greetings and best wishes from Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Soltan Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, were conveyed to Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India, by Shah Mohammad Dost, the DRA minister of foreign affairs who at present is on an official visit to India, during his meeting yesterday with Rajiv Gandhi.

At this meeting, which took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, talks were held with full understanding on the progress and broadening of bilateral relations between the DRA and the Republic of India, international issues and events in the region.

Reciprocally, the prime minister of India expressed his own, the government's and people of India's best wishes to the leaders and the people of the DRA.

Concludes Visit, Departs

BK090447 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] The Afghanistan foreign minister, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, left New Delhi this morning at the end of his 5-day visit. He was seen off at the airport by senior officials of the External Affairs Ministry. Talking to Radio Newsreel shortly before his departure, the Afghan foreign minister said that his visit has helped to further strengthen the existing bilateral relations.

Foreign Journalists To Be Allowed in Punjab

BK090340 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] Government (?has) decided to remove the restrictions on foreign newsmen traveling to Punjab. This was stated by an official spokesman in New Delhi last night. The restrictions were imposed following disturbed conditions in the state.

Air India To Fly Home Nationals Who Fled Uganda

BK081300 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Arrangements have been made to airlift Indian nationals who left Uganda in the wake of the recent developments there and those who wish to return to India. In a statement, the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Khurshid Alam Khan, told the Lok Sabha today that an Air India plane has been kept ready as a standby and will fly to Nairobi as soon as sufficient number of passengers are ready to leave. Mr Khan said India has been closely following the developments in Uganda after the coup last month when President Milton Obote was overthrown.

Delhi Says 58 Members of Banned Party Arrested
BK090333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] In Pakistan, the police are reported to have arrested 58 members of the banned Jamiat Islami party in Karachi. Quoting a party spokesman, REUTER says they were arrested while planning to stage a demonstration on the arrival of the president, General Ziaul Haq, in the city. No official confirmation is available.

Soviet Ambassador Meets With Senate Chairman
BK090322 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] The Soviet ambassador in Pakistan, Vezirov, met the Senate chairman, Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in Islamabad yesterday and exchanged views on relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. The Senate chairman told the Soviet ambassador that Pakistan is a supporter of world peace and it has submitted resolutions in the United Nations to declare South Asia a zone of peace and to expand it to a global level to benefit all mankind. He said that it is the responsibility of the superpowers to play a positive role in establishing global peace and [words indistinct] remove difficulties, besides creating an atomosphere of confidence in the underdeveloped Third World nations.

Afghan Mujahidin Kill 8 Soviet-Karmal Troops
BK091023 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the freedom fighters recently launched an attack in Farah Province and killed eight Soviet-Karmal troops. The freedom fighters also reportedly foiled an attack of the Soviet-Karmal forces to get control of the liberated areas in Uruzgan Province.

PAKISTAN TIMES on Soviet Occupation of Afghanistan
GF081500 Rawalpindi PAKISTAN TIMES in English 3 Aug 85 p 4

[Article by Dr Safdar Mahmud: "Afghanistan Problem: Some Recent Indicators"]

[Text] Soviet occupation of Afghanistan has changed the geopolitical scenario of this region, posing direct threat to Pakistan's integrity and converting the area into a hotbed of super-power rivalries.

Realising the dangers, Pakistan has been approaching the problem from different directions to find out its proper solution without compromising on fundamental principles; nonrecognition of Karmal government being one of them. Negotiations for peace through the United Nations are progressing at an extremely slow speed causing disillusionment in some of the political circles of Pakistan who have now started demanding direct talks with the Karmal government without appreciating the consequences of their suggestion.

Study of recent developments on this front unfolds four significant realities which are supposed to be determining the direction of Pakistan's approach to the Afghanistan problem. Firstly, Soviet attitude towards Pakistan and her stand on Afghanistan is growing harder day by day leading to mounting pressure on Pakistan through overt ond covert means. Secondly, Washington has started feeling that the problem can be resolved only through political negotiations and not through war. Thirdly, resistance of Afghan freedom fighters is on the wane.

Recently, a German T.V. team visited Afghanistan and reported that Soviet forces have been able to establish their authority on major part of the land. Apparently normalcy has returned to almost all the major towns and Afghan guerrilla activities are only sporadic in nature which cannot pose any serious threat to the Soviet forces in Afghanistan. Latest reports also indicate that the Soviet forces have established their camps close to the Pakistani borders and steps are being taken to seal the Pak-Afghan border designed to thwart Afghan fighters' penetration into Afghanistan as well as to check the migration of Afghan refugees. Consequently, this move may lead to permanent settlement of the Afghan refugees in Pakistan putting unprecedented pressure on Pakistan's modest resources.

Fourthly, two super-powers are deeply involved in the Afghanistan conflict leaving smaller scope of manoeuvring for Pakistan. Cordovez mission has not been able to make any break-through while time for negotiated peace is fast running out. Prolonged war with diminishing prospects of victory or peace has serious implications for Pakistan.

Mr Agha Shahi remarked in his article that Washington has almost accepted Rajiv's demands. With the transfer of American technology to India, the latter would emerge as a great power in the next few years. Pakistan should feel concerned about her future. Washington may pressurise Islamabad to accept Indian friendship on her terms. These realities, perhaps, have led to the desire in the policy making circles of Pakistan to look for new avenues of the solution. But it does not mean giving up of the traditional path. It only means an improvement in the peace seeking efforts.

The latest indicator of change and desire to try new avenues is the Prime Minister's statement that Pakistan is willing to talk to Moscow directly on Afghanistan issue. He told the newspaper editors that he expressed his desire for direct contact with Moscow during his farewell meeting with the former Soviet Ambassador, Mr Smirnov, who promised to convey his feelings to the Soviet leadership. However, the Prime Minister did not dilate on the Soviet reaction to his offer. Perhaps, there is no further development on this front so far.

This development appears to have taken place in a perspective which should be understood properly. The Americans appear to have realised that the war in Afghanistan cannot render permanent solution of the problem. Signs of donor's fatigue are also visible. Therefore, the Americans for the first time started suggesting political solution of the problem through official as well as informal channels. During Mr Rajiv's visit to Moscow, he was reportedly assured by Mr Gorbachev that the Soviets would withdraw their troops provided the CIA stopped military assis-

tance to Afghan guerrillas and the USA gave a guarantee of non-interference. It would be followed by actual time-frame for the return of Russian forces from Afghanistan.

In fact, the problem of international guarantees of non-interference and time-table is extremely complicated. It is marked with mutual suspicions and lack of confidence. The 1983 round of Geneva talks would have succeeded if Pakistan could obtain international guarantees of noninterference. These guarantees were not forthcoming for want of an exact time-table. Both these issues of international guarantees and time-table are interlinked and the situation cannot be resolved unless both the super-powers have confidence in each other and are sincere in their efforts.

So far, the situation is that if the Americans realise the weakness of their position and they make advances, the Russians adopt hardline course. If Russians offer to resolve the issue because of their compulsions, the Americans refuse to furnish guarantee of non-interference. This state of affairs is beyond Pakistan's control. Hence she is suffering due to a situation which she did not create.

During his visit to Washington, Mr Rajiv Gandhi was reportedly asked by the U.S. Secretary of State, George Shultz, if he could help in breaking the deadlock on Afghan issue. Recently, the "Far Eastern Economic Review" has disclosed that the Indian Foreign Secretary, Romesh Bhandari, took Washington's four-point formula to Moscow, reflecting the American desire to achieve political settlement of the Afghanistan problem.

Americans are reported to have accepted Soviet interests in Afghanistan and have suggested installation of a neutral government in Kabul. Pakistan's difficulty is that the neutral government should be acceptable to the Afghan mujahidin as well so that return of Afghan refugees is ensured.

Pakistan also realises that the key to the solution of the Afghan problem lies with Moscow. Hence Pakistan's Foreign Minister discussed Afghanistan problem with the Indian Prime Minister during his early July visit to New Delhi. Later on, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan told an Indian journalist that Pakistan would like India to help find a channel of communication with Moscow. Apparently, Indians are not likely to find out a channel of communication for Pakistan to establish contact with Moscow because Indians view Pakistan's engagement on her Afghan border as favourable to them. Settlement of Afghan issue may once again alter the threat perceptions of Pakistan. New Delhi has nothing to fear from Pakistan as long as it is getting massive military assistance from Moscow, coupled with American commitment of sophisticated technology transfer.

In view of Pakistan's geopolitical compulsions, her move to open direct channel of communications with Moscow would be appreciated. However, it is considered to be a delayed decision because much water has flown since 1980. With the hardening of Soviet attitude, Moscow may suggest to Islamabad to establish direct contact with Kabul which amounts to recognition of Karmal government. This position is not acceptable to Pakistan for well known reasons. Therefore, Pakistan's future course of action is marked with uncertainty and significant difficulties.

Delayed solution of the Afghanistan problem would diminish the prospect of Afghan refugees' return to their home land. Geneva talks are not likely to make any headway. New Soviet leadership would continue mounting pressure on Pakistan which cannot be resisted with the modest American assistance. Therefore, Pakistan should take some bold initiative to unravel the tangled issue. It is the requirement of the situation.

Islamic Peace Committee To Meet in Jeddah 12 Aug

BK090641 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] The Islamic Peace Committee meeting will be held in Jeddah on 12 September. This meeting is another attempt to help end the Iran-Iraq war. This was stated by the secretary general of Organization of Islamic Countries Syed Sharifuddin Pirzada, in an interview with the Radio Pakistan representative in Islamabad today before his departure for Karachi en route to Jeddah.

He said that he had detailed discussions with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on this war. He exchanged views with the president, the prime minister and the foreign minister on matters pertaining to the OIC. He said that he was told of the progress made in connection with the Afghanistan problem.

SRI LANKA

Delhi: India's Bhandari Meets With President

BK081258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, today held discussions in Colombo with the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, on the ethnic issue. The talks began soon after Mr Bhandari's arrival this morning. The 2-hour discussions are understood to have centered around Sri Lankan Government's proposals to be presented at the second round of talks in Thimpu beginning on Monday. Earlier, Mr Bhandari met the foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed. Mr Bhandari will be meeting some Tamils and opposition leaders besides the Sri Lankan prime minister, Mr Premadasa.

Meets With Party Leaders, Others

BK090404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Excerpts] The foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, had a 4-hour long meeting with the Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, on proposals to resolve the island's ethnic problem. He also met the rural industrial development minister and Ceylon Congress leader, Mr S. Thondaman, and senior presidential adviser, Mr Wickremasinghe. Mr Bhandari also called on the former prime minister and Sri Lanka Freedom Party Leader, Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike.

Urges Politicians Be Sent to Talks

HK090838 Hong Kong AFP in English 0810 GMT 9 Aug 85

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, Aug 9 (AFP) — India has urged the Sri Lankan Government to send politicians rather than lawyers, bureaucrats and diplomats to the second round of talks to settle the country's ethnic conflict, informed sources said today.

Talks between government representatives and leaders of Sri Lanka's Tamil community are due to resume on Monday in the Bhutanese capital, Thimpu.

Indian Foreign Secretary Romesh Bhandari conveyed New Delhi's suggestion at a meeting here yesterday with Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene and other government leaders, the sources said.

Indian diplomatic sources confirmed that Mr Bhandari had said that New Delhi's thinking was that if a political settlement was to be reached soon, then the Sri Lankan Government should be represented by politicians. Authoritative sources said that the reasoning was that if the government was represented by politicans then the Tamils might be more amenable to negotiating seriously.

The government delegation at the first round of talks was led by Harry Jayewardene, a lawyer and brother of the president, and consisted of lawyers, bureaucrats and diplomats.

The same delegation, with the addition of two extra officials, is due to leave for Bhutan today after consultations with national security minister Lalith Athulathmudali.

Members of Sri Lanka's minority Tamil community, complaining of unfair treatment by the Sinhala majority, have been campaigning for greater autonomy for the country's largely Tamil north and east, while militant Tamils have been fighting a guerrilla war for a separate Tamil state.

One source said that if the government agreed to include politicans in its team then Mr Athulathmudali might be sent to Thimpu. But sources added that even if Mr Athulathmudali was picked he was unlikely to join the government delegation until the second round was well under way.

Colombo has urged the Tamils to present their own peace proposals, following their rejection of a package of government proposals for greater autonomy. But the sources said that the signs were that the Tamils would not come up with their own proposals. Mr Bhandari is understood to have told Sri Lankan leaders this yesterday, according to authoritative sources.

Informed sources said that the government was likely to reconsider its participation in the talks if the Tamils did not submit their own proposals, and if some militant groups continued to violate a ceasefire between government forces and separatist guerrillas called to facilitate the negotiations.

The sources said that the government had told Mr Bhandari yesterday of numerous alleged ceasefire violations by some militants — particularly the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

The government said that apart from the ceasefire violations, armed militants were using threats to try and drive people from their homes in the north and east, the sources said. They added that government forces were ready to smash some of the militants' camps, especially belonging to the LTTE.

Mr Bhandari is understood to have said New Delhi did not presume to tell a sovereign country what to do, but that it would urge restraint in order not to spoil the atmosphere at the talks.

Yesterday Mr Bhandari met Sirimavo Bandaranaike, leader of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, the main opposition group, and invited her to India to discuss the ethnic conflict.

Hajj Official Karrubi Greets Pilgrims in Medina

GF080844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] According to the special correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Medina, the clerics guiding the various caravans of the Iranian hajj delegation stationed in Medina met yesterday with Mr Karrubi, the imam's representative and head of the Iranian hajj delegation.

During the meeting Mr Karrubi addressed the clerics of the caravans and said: We must be careful that the enemies of the Islamic Revolution do not somehow use the behavior and actions of the Iranian pilgrims against us. We must be sure that they do not use this as an excuse to damage the Islamic Revolution.

Mr Karrubi also commented on the staging of Komeyl prayers and Friday prayers and gave the necessary guidelines to the clerics of the caravans.

Our special correspondent's report from Medina states that the headquarters of hajj and pilgrimage stationed in Medina has issued figures on the number of Iranian pilgrims arriving in Medina as of yesterday afternoon. He said 56,270 Iranians had so far arrived.

Meets With African Muslims

GF080901 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Medina, Saudi Arabia — recorded]

[Text] Yesterday a delegation of ulema and Muslims from northern Africa held talks with Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi, the imam's representative and the head of the Iranian hajj delegation. Matters of mutual interest were discussed and other fruitful contacts were made. The Muslim guests from northern Africa discussed their problems and the cruelty imposed upon them by the puppet heads of their states. They said they were pleased and thankful for the position taken by the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in connection with the issue of the number of Iranian pilgrims going to the hajj this year. This is like the position taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the battlefronts of right against wrong, they said.

They showed tremendous affection for Imam Khomeyni and the Islamic Revolution and said they were ready to participate in and support the demonstrations planned by the Iranian pilgrims to the hajj.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi welcomed the African delegation and stressed unity among Muslims. He said: Solidarity and unity among Muslims will eventually break the backs of the superpowers. This is causing fear among the enemies of Islam and cheer and joy among Muslims.

The representative of the imam and the head of the Iranian hajj delegation added: Iranian society is now a focal point for all Islamic movements and I am happy to hear about Islamic movements taking shape in Egypt and other Islamic countries. Each one of you has a place in Iranian Muslims' hearts.

At the end of the meeting the ulema and Muslims of northern Africa asked the representative of the imam to relay their greetings to the imam of ummah.

Majlis Speaker: Defense Council Reviews Operations

LD082152 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] At the conclusion of tonight's session of the Supreme Defense Council, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at this council, was interviewed by our correspondent on the issues raised during this session. We draw your attention to this interview.

[Begin recording] [Hashemi-Rafsanjani] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Mr Mohsen Rezai'e presented a report on the situation at the battlefronts and the Qods operations, particularly the "Qods-V" operations. The situation at the battlefronts was reviewed and we discussed the future of the war and made decisions. We also discussed the budget figure for defense, the task which has been assigned to the Supreme Defense Council by the Islamic Consultative Assembly. We determined the amount and discussed conscripts and the method of dividing them among the Armed Forces, the Guards Corps, the Gendarmerie, the police and other departments. There were other discussions on the general situation of the war, defense, the Armed Forces, the Guards Corps, and so forth.

[Correspondent] Mr Hashemi, would you please explain the outcome of the "Qods-V" operations?

[Hashemi-Rafsanjani] Well, this has been announced before and the report is similar to the previous ones. The area of operations is important. It is located in the east and southeastern region of Baydan and north of the Khandaq highway. It is an important highway. They have liberated an important outpost and very important bases. They have captured 19 prisoners and the enemy has suffered [words indistinct] casualties.

Briefly, about the 5 Qods operations, which were carried out in approximately 50 days, reports indicate that a total of 233 troops were captured as POW's. About 3,000 enemy troops were kicked out of the arena [as heard] and 350 square kilometers of enemy territory, which are strategically important, were liberated. Our forces also captured considerable quantity of military equipment.

The interesting point is the fact that during these operations our forces' casualties were very negligible indeed and amounted to no more than the daily casualties of the usual border clashes. That is, sometimes, our forces achieved great gains without suffering any losses at all. The new battle tactics are very useful for us and have been very bitter for the enemy. According to the reports which were presented, the morale of our combatants is very high and they are in a state of high morale for attack. [Words indistinct] The morale of the enemy is very low and its political situation is not any better. [End recording]

Comments on Iraq, Husayn

GF090703 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Excerpts] Following the conclusion of last night's session of the Supreme Defense Council, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative at the council [and its spokesman], was interviewed by our correspondent.

The spokesman of the Supreme Defense Council answered questions about the canceled trips of Saddam to Egypt and Morocco. He was asked if these cancellations were for any special reason. He said: I believe that Saddam did not go to these two countries, although the trips had been previously announced, because of the current internal situation in Iraq. This emphasizes Saddam's lack of faith in the present situation in Iraq. Something is surely bound to happen in Iraq if he leaves the country.

Apart from this, in general such actions by Saddam expose the lies of the Ba'thist regime, and show that the slogans of the country's ruling party are empty and worthless. Although they are following the Camp David path and act just like Egypt and Morocco, they still pretend to show some sort of leftist reaction in dealing with issues. Had Saddam gone to the Arab summit in Casablanca -- keeping in mind the atmosphere in the conference and that Saddam, of course, would have had to make a speech there -- these issues would have been made even more clear. I doubt that Saddam would take part in such conferences unless he throws open the curtains, but this would expose his lies and show the pretenses and trickery of the Ba'thist regime of Iraq.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on Saddam's latest remarks during an interview with the Kuwaiti daily *AL-SIYASAH*. For the first time Saddam mentions his removal from leadership of the Ba'thist regime ruling Iraq. In the interview, Saddam clearly does not consider this impossible. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: This is a new issue which has been brought out under the current circumstances. Saddam said that Iraq has a regime that will continue even if he goes. Still, the fact that this subject was mentioned in print could be a new development.

Majlis Speaker Delivers Friday Prayer Sermons

LD091323 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1040 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] On the eve of the historic presidential elections, millions of our Muslim compatriots by taking part today in the religio-political Friday prayers ceremonies all over the country, announced their readiness to participate in the presidential elections. The Muslim and revolutionary people of Tehran today, as on previous Fridays, arrived at the University of Tehran and its surrounding streets, and held the Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

In the first sermon of the Friday prayers, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, as in previous weeks, continued his discussion on social justice in Islam, analyzing the issue of social relations between men and women as viewed by Islam.

In the second sermon, referring to the anniversary of constitutional monarchy, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani praised the relentless struggle of the alert and learned clergy in the planning and realization of the constitutional monarchy, which took place with the cooperation of the committed people. He reviewed in detail the affairs which resulted in the deviation of the constitutional monarchy and its eventual turn to dictatorship in the era of the Pahlavi regime [the victory of constitutional monarchy was at the time of Mozaffaroddin Shah, from the Qajar dynasty, beginning 5 August 1906].

Continuing the second sermon, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani commented on the historic presidential elections, and said: In fact, the people's presence on the scene will be interpreted as a referendum and as a vote for the Islamic Revolution. Therefore, with every ballot box filled with the people's votes the foe goes into mourning. Voting is free and the people are free to cast their votes for the candidate of their choice. All Iranians legally eligible to vote are duty-bound to take part in the elections; our people have always demonstrated their political awareness in this way.

Afterward, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council [Hashemi-Rafsanjani] reviewed the situation on the battlefronts, and said: The situation on the battlefronts is very good. The enemy has run out of patience and is exhausted, thanks to new tactics of the Armed Forces and the Guards Corps. The issue is now being raised in the world that some thought should be given to Iraq's future.

While analyzing the outcome of the series of five Jerusalem operations, the imam's representative at the Supreme Defense Council said: During these five operations, our casualties were very small. The enemy suffered about 3,000 dead and wounded; 350 square kilometers of enemy territory were liberated and a number of the enemy troops were captured by our warriors. Our recent operations were a reply to the enemy's atrocities in his attacks on the cities of our country, and today Saddam is seeing the outcome of his crime of attacking civilian areas. It is expected that through their new tactics the combatants of Islam will encircle the enemy from north to south so that we can liberate the nation of Iraq from the evil of the Iraqi regime with minimum casualties, God willing, and the world of Islam will then be able to see the two Islamic countries of Iran and Iraq as a united front.

Afterward, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the anniversary of the U.S. nuclear bomb explosions in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, on 6 and 9 August 1945, and commented on his recent trip to these two Japanese cities that witnessed the U.S. crimes. Referring to the recent remarks of U.S. President Reagan, who had said that without the use of atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki perhaps 1 million people would have lost their lives in the war, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Global arrogance thinks of every inhumane logic. What is the meaning of nuclear disarmament with such logic? By stockpiling various types of nuclear bombs, the superpowers intend to keep the people of the world in fear and anxiety. If there are going to be talks on nuclear disarmament, then not even a single nuclear weapon should be left on earth and all nuclear weapons should be destroyed.

Referring to the struggle of the South African blacks, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani discussed various aspects of the struggle waged by the deprived people of South Africa against that country's regime, calling the white minority ruling regime of South Africa a tool in the hand of global arrogance to crush the people of Africa. He expressed hope that the people of South Africa would succeed in their struggle through solidarity, unity and their leadership.

In the last part of the second sermon, the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly discussed the nature of the Arab summit in Morocco. While strongly criticizing the issues which are frequently raised in this summit, he said: When holding a meeting, the Arab heads of state should think of ways to solve problems of the Arab world; but in the recent Arab summit in Morocco, a group of reactionary and conservative individuals have come together in order to create problems for the Arab world, condemn progressive countries, and provide the reactionary forces with a tribune to publicize their ideas. This is taking place at a time when, simultaneous with this summit, the United States is preparing for the "Bright Star maneuvers in Egypt. We hope that the Arab world will wake up and follow the path of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, which is the path of Islam, independence and neither East nor West.

In conclusion, addressing Arab Muslims, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani read a sermon in Arabic.

Further Details

GF091417 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Arabic Friday sermon by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Majlis speaker and Tehran Friday imam ad interim, at Tehran University on 9 August 1985 — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Praise be to God. Prayers on God's Prophet, his kin, and pious people.

You know of the holding of a meeting in Morocco under the name of the extraordinary conference of the leaders of the Arab countries. Regrettably, the aims and results of this conference contravene the principal aim of the idea of convening a meeting for the leaders of the Arab countries. In principle, we approve of the holding of a meeting of the officials of Islamic countries, but on the condition that its aims and agenda are devoted to the interests of Islam and Muslims, and for the sake of achieving progress and continued greatness of the Islamic powers. Regrettably, however, we see the opposite in this conference.

1. This meeting is convened by the reactionary wing and in the absence of the progressive Arab forces.

2. The aims proclaimed so far are no more than granting ratification and support to treasonous Arab agents. These agents are devoted to the forfeiture of rights and surrender with regard to the Palestinian cause, the perpetuation of the Camp David process, and undermining the struggle of the Lebanese people.

3. Those who have called for the conference are subject to accusation and mistrust by Muslims and free Arabs.

4. Regrettably, the circumstances of the Arab world are such that it appears impossible to achieve an agreement of viewpoints regarding the Islamic causes of the Islamic and Arab world in this conference.

5. The authentic Palestinian forces, the owners of the most important issue of the Islamic world, are not present at this conference.

6. The participants in this extraordinary conference have adopted painful and unjust stances with regard to the Iraqi war imposed on Iran. They have repeatedly declared fanatical and unjust stands in support of the aggressor. They have also repeatedly declared their hostility to Islamic and wronged Iran. They will produce an ill-omened result in connection with this issue, which is important to the Islamic world.

7. The level of this conference is so low that even the leaders of the main bargaining countries have not condescended to take part in it; instead, they have deputized secondary level individuals.

8. The venue of this conference carries bitter memories of the main perfidious decisions made against the Palestinian cause and the positive resolutions taken against the Egyptian rulers. There is no hope of any constructive outcome of the Casablanca conference except a miniature model of the White House in West Africa. There is no doubt that the Arab and Islamic worlds need to meet, make efforts, and conduct dialogues. However, these consultations must be conducted with the consent of the Palestinian and Lebanese people's representatives.

These meetings must be held to seek a just solution to the war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran, punish the degenerating Iraqi Ba'th, struggle against the superpowers' hegemony over the Islamic world, and reform and (?restrain) the capitulatory and treacherous forces. These meetings must be held to reform the agents of Camp David who are showing their muscle to the struggling Muslims with support from imperialists through the "Bright Star 85"maneuvers. These discussions must also be aimed at unifying efforts toward the Islamic rule.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Say He is God, the one and only, the eternal, absolute; He begetteth not, nor is He begotten. He hath no equal. [Koranic verse]

Prime Minister Notes Drop in Inflation

LD081413 Tehran IRNA in English 1359 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA — Iran's Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi Thursday said that the inflation rate has dropped to 10.5 percent this year and it is expected to drop another 0.5 percent by the end of current Iranian year which ends in March, He termed the figures as unprecedented in the Third World.

Speaking on Tuesday's parliamentary vote on the national foreign currency budget, Musavi said the new law indicates a lower reliance on oil revenue. On Tuesday, the parliament passed a bill

allowing the government 15 billion dollars for its foreign purchases. Musavi said enemies of Iran believe that withholding credit from Iran would pressure the Tehran government, while the move would help Iran towards less reliance on foreign income.

Referring to the upcoming presidential elections, the prime minister said the counterrevolutionaries had become extensively active in propaganda against the elections. "An indication", he said, "of the real importance of the event". The prime minister said the extent of people's participation would indicate the interest of the nation in the Islamic system.

Musavi Speaks on Elections, State of Country

GF081619 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi today addressed the general seminar of the directors of education in Tehran. He said that the efforts of officials in the Islamic Republic of Iran are aimed at making this Islamic country an example to be followed today by all humanity. The prime minister praised the comprehensive presence of the Iranian people in the arena defending the achievements of the Islamic Revolution.

He affirmed the importance of the presidential elections, which will take place in Iran on 15 August. He added: The presidential elections are very important to us, and the presence of the Iranian people in the arena is a fatal element for the enemies of the Islamic Republic, who feel harmed by this comprehensive cohesion.

Mir Hoseyn Musavi said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has succeeded, despite all plots by the Islamic enemies, in reducing inflation last year to 10.5 percent and to less than 10 percent during this year. He said that in spite of 5 years of military aggression and great pressures, Iran today is stronger than ever because of the people's support and the capabilities of the directors. He added that despite relying entirely on ourselves in building an independent Iranian society, the current position of the Islamic Republic is far better than that of countries supported by the superpowers.

President Khamene'i Delivers Election Speech

LD081808 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1000 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Presidential election campaign speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i — date and place not given; recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. I would like to speak for a few minutes with the people in accordance with the regulations governing presidential candidates.

There are a great many arguments about the issues connected with the presidency and the past, future and present of the country, and of course I shall refer to the most important of these during these opportunities on the radio and television. Today I shall confine myself to two issues. One is the importance of the issue of the presidential elections and the participation of the people.

In my opinion the most important manifestation of the people's participation in the administration of the country is the presidential elections; at least it is one of the most important. What do the people do in the presidential elections? They elect a person who becomes the head of the administration, in other words, the head of the immense administrative apparatus of the country. This is the person who appoints the prime minister and other ministers. And it is the prime minister and other ministers who [words indistinct] administer the country and in effect undertake and shoulder the running of the country. When the people carry out the country's presidential elections they can tell the world that it is we who are electing the country's administrators.

Another significant point about the elections: When the people participate and give a great many votes to their choice for president of the republic, the president finds the strength and power to embark on reform, advise the government on what he deems essential and useful, follow up matters, draw up the main guidelines of the economic, foreign, cultural and various other policies, and call upon the government, executive officials and directors to carry them out.

Secondly, I would like to make a brief comparison between the country's situation at the beginning of the current presidential term of office and the end of this term, which is now approaching. I do not wish to discuss minute details or dwell on the economic, political, cultural, and military issues of the day. But if one were to draw a general picture of the face of the country and if we were to draw a picture of Iran in 1981, when the previous elections took place, a great many facts would become clear to us. Four years ago, in the middle of the year when the elections took place, what was the situation in our country? If I were to summarize this in a few sentences I would say that on that day we had a country which was turbulent in the truest sense of the word: a country of anarchy, with an extremely bad economic situation. The situation of the currency reserves was a sorrowful and frightening one.

The situation of the security of the borders, the security of the country's various regions, even the security of the cities was very bad indeed. The people sensed a lack of stability. No one felt that the country was stable. Hostile world propaganda daily magnified this instability in the minds of the people. The superpowers and scavenging hyenas who were waiting to find a prey and sate their bellies were threatening the country from various directions. The effete, inept, beaten and hated counterrevolution, like howling jackals, kept yelping on various radios and mouthpieces placed at their disposal by world arrogance in various corners of the globe and constantly harangued the people, promising themselves that they would return to the country in 2 or 3 months, thereby demoralizing the people and portraying the situation as increasingly unstable.

Today everything is entirely different. From the standpoint of the political situation and world power of those days no one imagined that that situation and this country could last even 1 year. Today

we are considered in the world as a part of determining policies. [as heard] On that day the United States placed us under its economic, political and propaganda encirclement and put pressure on us from every direction. Today the United States admits that it is within our political encirclement. [as heard] Reagan openly declares that he is threatened by Iran and a few other countries. This means that we have subjected the United States to moral and political encirclement and that pressure is being brought to bear on that great and opportunist world-devouring policy.

Even then the Third World countries did not attach much importance to us, did not have any ties with us, and did not bring us into their calculations. However, hardly a year passed after the elections 4 years ago when one of the presidents who came to our country after a short stay in our country for meetings and talks told me: I feel that your country enjoys order!

Today the world takes us into its calculations. Wherever we go they welcome us with open arms. Various countries and governments greatly desire relations with us. They are proud of and welcome such relations. A great many world presidents are quite willing for us to invite them to come to our country. Having ties with us is a cause for prestige for them with their nations, with the world nations and even with the superpowers. This is our situation today.

Tehran Criticizes Arab League Secretary General
GF081922 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The only issue haunting Chedli Klibi [Arab League secretary general] is how to save the collapsing regime in Iraq. He has used all means, ideas, and plans to bolster the aggressive regime, as if the Arab world has nothing else better to do except to consider the issue of Saddam and what he is suffering as a result of the war.

The problem with the Arab League is that it has shifted its political line under Klibi's tenure. Due to its officials' tendency to play off parties against each other, the Arab League has turned into a tool of disintegration in the Arab world, instead of becoming a tool of unity to mobilize Arab energies. In short, the Arab League has ignored its true purpose of serving as a base on which Arab countries come together. Part of the responsibility for this negligence lies with Chedli Klibi, who has intentionally and unintentionally placed himself in the service of Arab disintegration.

If history should record each stand and step, it would record this great insistence by Chedli Klibi in perpetuating Arab disintegration and in destroying the Arab will. This is attributed to the axes the Arab League secretary general underscores through the Arab League's policy, mainly his staunch defense of Saddam's regime and his call for Arab countries to place their assets in the service of this regime. We do not know what drives Chedli Klibi to take such a fervent stand in defending a regime -- an aggressive regime which launched the war against Muslim people who had just freed themselves from the shah's oppression only to find themselves facing a war imposed on them. Did these people — who forged the epic of freedom throughout history — deserve such people to adopt this stand against them? Was the reward for the Islamic Republic of Iran's firm stand against the United States and its advocacy of the Palestinian cause to be met with such an insult by persons such as Klibi and those who follow his line?

Let us ask: What makes Klibi and his like back Saddam's regime? They always side with this regime; they do not ask themselves whether this regime is right or wrong. If the reason behind such a stand is pan-Arab motivation, this is chauvinistic. It is not a new idea in the Arab world, rather, it is an old one. Islam came to put an end to it. Tribes used to raid each other without reason. They used to fight each other, motivated only by nationalistic reasons and pre-Islamic dogma. What is strange is that some Arab regimes, which have admitted that the war was started by Baghdad, are siding after all this with the aggressor. Does not this mean a return to the law of tribes and the pre-Islamic era?

If the real reason behind supporting this aggressive regime is not nationalist feeling or the like, one fact remains which gains credibility in the policies of some regimes, circles, and personalities. It is the harmony with the arrogant policy and the playing on the tune of U.S. domination. One of the fundamentals of this domination was to subjugate the Islamic Republic, through Saddam, and then to make him a gendarme in favor of imperialist interests and goals in the Persian Gulf region.

It is clear that not only Saddam has devoted himself to this plan. Scores of countries and a hoard of personalities have devoted themselves to the service of this policy for one reason or another. Of course, we do not want a personality such as Chedli Klibi, who is playing an important role in the Arab world through the Arab League, to put such an institution at the service of imperialist interests. Klibi should have used his political influence in the Arab world for the sacred goal of unifying the Arab world and consolidating the spirit of civilization and progress in people's hearts. Those who bartered on a united Arab decision in favor of Saddam cannot forget the fact that such bargaining does not lead to unity but only to disunity. This is what we are seeing now.

Iraq Trains Nationals Residing in Kuwait in Sabotage
GF081530 Tehran International Service in Arabic
1330 GMT 8 Aug 85

[From "The Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] The Iraqi Embassy in Kuwait has granted special entry visas to 10 Iranians opposed to the Islamic Revolution in Iran, who reside in Kuwait. Exclusive reports released by the employees of the embassy reported that these Iranians were previously members of the SAVAK, the oppressive body established by the buried shah, which was dissolved after his downfall. Some of these people work in a carpentry in the Al-Shuwaykh region in Kuwait to disguise their identities.

Well-informed sources noted that the basic mission of their departure to Baghdad is to be trained in sabotage and detonation

operations and then return to Kuwait. These sources added that the mission of these people is not restricted to Kuwait, but also in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The Ba'thist regime intends to carry out sabotage acts there during the next pilgrimage season, putting the blame on Iranian pilgrims and Iranians residing in Saudi Arabia. This group left for Baghdad by land on 12 July.

On the other hand, attempting to cover up the mission of the SAVAK elements in Kuwait, the Ba'thist embassy in Kuwait issued entry visas to a number of Iranians who are opposed to the Islamic Revolution in Iran in order to carry out a campaign through the media of the ruling Ba'thist regime to counter any distortion on their actions.

Delegation Departs for USSR Commercial Talks

LD082116 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] In accordance with the policy of expanding healthy commercial relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries of the world on the basis of mutual respect, a delegation, consisting of eight persons and headed by the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of the Islamic Republic of Iran, made a trip to the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. It is expected that during this visit, the preliminary steps for establishing a joint chamber of commerce between Iran and the Soviet Union will be taken.

Majlis Approves Funds for Purchase of Oil Tankers

LD081421 Tehran IRNA in English 1408 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA — Iran's Majlis (parliament) rushed through a bill Thursday allowing the government to spend 26 billion rials (about dollars 260 million) for the purchase of seven oil tankers. The fleet is planned to transfer oil from the Khark Island Terminal to the Sirri Island further south where foreign tankers will pick up their loads. The tankers will also be used for the transfer of crude Iranian oil to South Yemen where it will be refined before being returned to Iran. The Oil Ministry will be responsible for the implementation of the project.

The bill received a majority vote after deliberation by deputies in favour and opposed to the proposals. The spokesman for the parliamentary budget committee, which was responsible for detailed study of the project, also spoke at the session.

Immediately after the voting, the Guardian Council that supervises parliamentary proceedings and their constitutionality approved the new law. The Council has veto power over bills that pass through the parliament.

Begins Annual Recess

LD082219 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Excerpt] According to our correspondent, the Islamic Consultative Assembly will take its annual recess for a period of 1 month as of today.

Tehran Reports Anti-Iraqi Kurdish Operation

GF081657 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 8 Aug 85

[From "The Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq" program]

[Text] Reliable reports from oppressed Iraq indicate that the Hezbollah peshmerga of our Kurdish brothers last Wednesday attacked one of the troop carriers belonging to the 'Aflaqist regime. They destroyed the carrier and killed all its Ba'thist mercenary occupants.

The reports indicate that following this successful attack, the Saddamist regime commited an ugly crime by furiously shelling many villages in Iraqi Kurdistan, including the area of (Braw Kuy), which is controlled by the Kurdish Hezbollah peshmerga.

Tehran Notes Kurdish Attacks Inside Iraq

LD082226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, Iraqi Kurdish strugglers using various small and heavy arms attacked (Kah) outpost, a Ba'th Party building and a meeting center of the Iraqi forces located at (Baghdareh) base near Shaykhan region, inflicting some losses and damage on the personnel and the hardware of these bases.

According to the same report, the Iraqi Kurdish fighters, during a similar attack on the Mirgah Sur base, Mirgah Sur Brigade HQ in northern Iraq, destroyed installations and killed a number of the personnel there.

Also according to this report, a Ba'thist deputy of the Iraqi consultative assembly and two soldiers were killed by mines planted by the Iraqi Kurdish fighters along two rural roads in (Rastgari) region, northern Iraq.

This report further states that Iraqi Kurdish strugglers occupied a seven-story building accomodating foreign experts, during a military parade in the town of Dahuk, and proceeded to expose the Iraqi regime's crimes against the Muslim people of that country using a loudspeaker.

IRNA: SAIRI To Open Office in Damascus

LD081412 Tehran IRNA in English 1402 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8, IRNA — Iraq's Muslim dissidents will soon open an office in the Syrian capital, an official of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SAIRI) said Thursday. Dr. Ja'fari said Syrian officials have agreed with SAIRI request for greater activity in Syria. Ja'fari who headed a SAIRI delegation to Syria and Libya last week was speaking to reporters on future plans of his organization.

There is a large Iraqi community in Syria and SAIRI could become active in organizing them against the ruling regime in Iraq, he said.

Informed sources here said Ja'fari's visit to the progressive countries of the region was an effort by SAIRI to present its alternative to the present government in Iraq.

SAIRI's military wing fights along side Iranian forces for the establishment of an Islamic government in Iraq.

Ja'fari termed his meetings with Libyan officials as friendly and said the Libyans had asked for greater contacts between SAIRI and the Tripoli government.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Journalists Visit 'Jerusalem V' Zone

LD081206 Tehran IRNA in English 1446 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Aug 8, IRNA — The operational region of Jerusalem V operation and areas liberated by Iranian forces in this operation were visited by foreign reporters from West Germany, the United States, Belgium, Japan, Syria, Holland and Australia Thursday morning.

The reporters visited "Elitch" strategic outpost of the Iraqi forces as well as its three secondary military posts which all were captured by the Iranian combatants during the Jerusalem V operation. Film reports were made of the liberated area in (Hawr al-'Azim) district by the visitors.

Reporter from the American daily *THE CHRISTIAN SCI ENCE MONITOR*, Claude England, after seeing the left-behind equipments of the Iraqi forces who had to flee in the face of the on-rushing Iranian attack, said the logical conclusion of these operations would be the liberation of the strategic Basra-Al-'Amarah-Baghdad highway. He said the Iraqi deployment of chemical weapons and its bombardment of Iran's residential sectors were despicable acts which should be widely condemned by the world public opinion.

Tony Clinton, an Australian journalist, said that he too condemned the deployment of chemical weapons by the Iraqi regime. "This is an illegal act on the part of Iraq and should be firmly condemned," he added.

'Jerusalem V' Success Noted

GF081555 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] In continuation of "Jerusalem V" operation, this morning at 0600 [0230 GMT] the combatants of Islam, penetrating operational sectors of Jerusalem I and II, struck further crushing blows on the Zionist Iraqi enemy while chanting "Ya Fatimah al-Zahra Adriki"[reach out Saint Fatimah al-Zahra].

According to our reporter, during these operations the Islamic combatants were able not only to destroy nine naval stations including all personnel, but also a number of boats and communications equipment — such as radios — and a number of light and semi-heavy equipment of the faltering Iraqi army, such as machine guns, a RPG-7, and a mortar launcher.

During this morning's operations heavy losses were inflicted on an Iraqi commando base and more than 100 commandoes were killed. One commander for the operations in an interview with our reporter said that the reason for these operations was to destroy the equipment, kill the enemy forces, and prevent military, engineering, and [words indistinct] of the Iraqi regime in the operational fronts of Jerusalem I and II.

Tehran on Recent Operation

GF090547 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 9 Aug 85

[Text] Continuing the glorious "Jerusalem V" operations, in a series of infiltration attacks northwest of Hur al-Azim yesterday, the warriors of Islam stormed the heart of Iraqi troop concentrations. Nine Iraqi naval stations were destroyed.

According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya Joint Operational Headquarters, the mobilization forces from Yazd Province took an active role in these operations. The forces of Islam destroyed a commando battalion of the aggressor Iraqi Army and killed 100 troops of a battalion company.

During these operations, the Islamic troops destroyed several boats and took weaponry, ammunition, communications equipment, and several boats belonging to the Zionist enemy, as booty.

The Joint Operational Heaquarters' report states that following the successful "Jerusalem V" operations in the Hawr al-Hawizah area, the forces of Islam, including the brave popular forces mobilized from Yazd Province, established themselves in new positions and are now engaged in mopping-up operations, clearing mine-fields, diffusing explosive-ladden barrels, and disassembling barbed-wire barriers.

Iraq Attacks Abadan, Khorramshahr

GF081613 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] The residential and civilian parts of the resisting cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr, and the villages around these two cities are continuously the target of the heavy artillery fire of the ruling Iraqi regime. According to the Central News Unit, during the past 24 hours six houses were destroyed in Abadan due to explosions. In Khorramshahr 2 fires were started which resulted in the burning of 150 bales of cotton; 2 village homes were also destroyed.

Communique No 2,190

LD081643 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Tehran, Aug 8 IRNA — Iran's Joint Staff reported sporadic artillery exchanges across all war fronts Thursday and said a group of Iraqi troops were killed in the clashes and parts of their positions were destroyed.

Reporting on the northern front, the command said enemy artillery fell silent after Iran's Muslim combatants heavily shelled Iraqi positions. The heaviest clashes in the area were Sardasht, where enemy planes tried to attack Iranian positions but were forced to flee the heavy anti-aircraft fire.

Near the town of Naft-e Shah in the central front Muslim combatants attacked an Iraqi column, forcing it to halt. Parts of the convoy were destroyed and an undetermined number of Iraqi troops were killed in these clash, the command said.

In the southern front, Iraqi patrols were spotted trying to infiltrate Iranian positions near the "Nim Istgah-e Navad." The intruders were forced to return after Muslim combatants opened fire on them.

The command reported heavy clashes in Kushk and Nahr-Anbar where Iranian troops faced Iraqi tanks in combat. The command said the enemy suffered damages and casualties but did not indicate the extent of the damges.

Six houses in Abadan and two in Khorramshahr were damaged when Iraqi long range artillery hit the two cities, the command said in its communique number 2190.

'Unconquerable' Iraqi Post Captured

LD081801 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] According to a report from Khatam ol-Anbiya Headquarters, following the victorious "Jeursalem V" operations in Hawr al-Hawizah region, Islam's combatants, composed of popular armed forces dispatched from the martyr-nurturing province of Yazd, have been posted to their new bases.

They are now clearing mines, neutralizing booby-traps, and cutting down barbed wire.

A "Jerusalem V" operation commanding officer announced that the enemy had assumed that the Alij strategic post was unconquerable, but Islamic fighters, relying on their bravery and unbelievable resiliance, and asking for divine succor, succeeded in liberating the post and its auxiliary posts.

He added that low morale and fear could be observed clearly among the ranks of the Iraqi forces. According to POW's captured during the operations, the Iraqi commanders took away every boat from the vicinity of the post in order to halt any escape attempt by the Iraqi soldiers.

Tehran Reports Mujahidin Activity in Jalalabad

GF080829 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] Informed Afghan mujahidin sources announced yesterday that, during an attack by the mujahidin against joint Afghan Government forces and occupation forces in the Jalalabad area, near the highway between Kabul and Peshawar, 14 of the joint forces were killed and 35 others were wounded.

According to the Central News Unit, the mujahidin also severely attacked a base of joint Afghan Government forces and occupation forces at the end of July. Many of the joint forces were killed and serious damage was done to installations on the base.

Afghan Army Officer Joins Mujahidin

GF081114 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Excerpt] An Afghan mujahidin source has stated that a senior officer in the Afghan Army joined the Muslim revolutionaries this week. Also, Afghan Muslim revolutionaries used rockets and machine guns in an attack on a Kabul regime military convoy in Maruf. Six government troops were killed and several others were wounded.

IRNA Reports Mujahidin Operations

GF081959 Tehran IRNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 8 Aug 85

[Text] London, 8 Aug (IRNA) — In one of their successful operations the Afghan mujahidin killed eight members of the forces of agent Babrak Karmal and destroyed one tank and one military vehicle of the invading Soviet forces. The Afghan news agency AAP said that on 26 July, the mujahidin attacked the village of (Adam Khan) near Qarchi Gak, Helmand in southern Afghanistan destroying one enemy tank.

The agency added: On 2 August mines were planted on a road used by a vehicle belonging to the Karmal regime in Baldarghanak in Molla Vali-ye Valeh in southern Afghanistan. The mines exploded, destroying the vehicle and its eight occupants.